

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMCONSUL PALERMO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2451
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L PALERMO 0398

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, IT
SUBJ: REGIONAL PRESIDENT'S VIEWS ON MORO KIDNAPPING

REF: PALERMO 331

I PAID FORMAL CALL APRIL 12 ON SANTI MATTARELLA IN HIS NEW
ROLE AS PRESIDENT OF THE SICILIAN REGIONAL GOVERNMENT. BEYOND
REHEARSAL OF REGIONAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAM (REFTEL) AND ROUTINE
TREATMENT OF OTHER SUBJECTS, I FOUND MATTARELLA'S COMMENTS ON
MORO KIDNAPPING OF PARTICULAR INTEREST, GIVEN MATTARELLA'S
STRONG TIES TO THE DC PARTY PRESIDENT. MATTARELLA SAID HE WOULD
ATTEND APRIL 13 DC NATIONAL DIRECTORATE SESSION IN ROME WHERE
MORO KIDNAPPING AND UPCOMING ADMINISTRATIVE ELECTIONS WILL BE
KEY AGENDA ITEMS. WHATEVER THE OUTCOME OF MORO'S DETENTION,
MATTARELLA SAID HE BELIEVED IT HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT DC
PRESIDENT WOULD EVER RECOVER HIS POTENTIAL FOR HIGH PUBLIC
OFFICE. THIS DID NOT RULE OUT MORO'S CONTINUING TO SERVE
BEHIND THE SCENES AS PARTY MOTIVATOR AND MEDIATOR, BUT DEFINITELY
PRECLUDED MORO'S ELECTION TO THE QUIRINALE AND POSSIBLE FURTHER
SERVICE AS PRIME MINISTER.
COLLINS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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